

22 July 2005

Dear Colleague,

Further to our letter of 7 April about the conference we are hosting in London on 23 and 24 November on the theme of "Responses to the threat of terrorism and effects on communities", we attach, as promised, a draft agenda and registration documents. We should be very grateful if you would return the registration form by 30 September. Unfortunately we must remind you that places are limited to a maximum of two delegates from each Committee, including Committee staff and other assistants.

We look forward to seeing you in November.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

[signed]

Rt Hon John Denham MP
Chairman
Home Affairs Committee
House of Commons

Lord Wright of Richmond
Chairman
Home Affairs Sub-Committee
European Union Committee
House of Lords

DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR EU JHA COMMITTEES CONFERENCE ON "RESPONSES TO THE THREAT OF TERRORISM AND EFFECTS ON COMMUNITIES"

Wednesday 23 November

19.30 for 20.00: Dinner in Members' Dining Room

After dinner: speech by Home Secretary

Thursday 24 November

09.30: Welcome by Chairmen of Commons and Lords Committees

09.45: First session, chaired and introduced by John Denham

Speech by Franco Frattini, Vice-President of the European Commission and Justice Commissioner, followed by questions/discussion on

Terrorism and minority communities

- Minority communities: how to involve them in counter-terrorism activity?
- Creating an inclusive national identity
- Local communities: building on success
- The role of central government and the police

11.00-11.30: Coffee

11.30: Continuation of discussion

13.00-15.00: Lunch

15.00: Second session, chaired and introduced by Lord Wright

The EU's response to terrorism

- The Member States and the EU: enhancing Member States' co-operation and the EU's co-ordinating role
- EU structures: how can they be organised most effectively?
- Sharing information and intelligence: guiding principles and safeguards
- Data protection arrangements in the Third Pillar
- Democratic accountability: the roles of national parliaments and of the European Parliament.

16.30-17.00: Tea

17.00-17.45: Speech by Lord Chancellor

followed by questions/discussion

18.00: Reception hosted by Home Secretary



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7 April 2005

Dear Colleague,

As you know, the United Kingdom assumes the Presidency of the European Union for the second half of this year. To mark this, the Home Affairs Committee of the House of Commons and Sub-Committee F (Home Affairs) of the European Union Committee of the House of Lords have decided to host a conference for our sister Committees in the Parliaments of the European Union and the Candidate States. This will take place in London on 23 and 24 November, beginning with a formal dinner in the Members Dining Room of the House of Commons. The theme will be "Responses to the threat of terrorism and effects on communities".

In several EU countries the experience or threat of international terrorism and the necessary response has added to existing tensions between different ethnic, cultural and religious populations. We hope that the conference will be a valuable way for Parliamentarians to assess this experience and the most effective ways of promoting community cohesion whilst resisting terrorism.

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to take part in the conference, at which the Home Secretary, the Lord Chancellor and Franco Frattini, Vice-President of the European Commission, have all agreed to speak. We shall send out an agenda and registration documents in due course, but in the meantime we would be very grateful if you could indicate whether you will be able to attend. Unfortunately, space constraints mean that there will have to be a maximum of two delegates from each Committee, including Committee staff and other assistants.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon John Denham MP
Chairman
Home Affairs Committee
House of Commons

Lord Wright of Richmond
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